

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Our work is impossible in human strength alone. Without the Holy Spirit going before us, empowering us and drawing people, all our efforts are in vain. That's why we need prayer. Together we can make a difference in our nation.

### WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO PRAY.

Our work is impossible without an army of witnesses. Those witnesses need trained evangelists to teach, encourage, support and lead them. Working together, witnesses and evangelists can make a difference in our nation.

### WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO GO.

Our work is impossible without money. Without adequate finance the work simply stops. We have a vision of an army of witnesses throughout the nation supported by commissioned evangelists. By the steady giving of the people of God we can continue to develop and grow. Our nation can see and hear the gospel. Together we can make a difference in our nation.

### WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO GIVE.

#### The Church Army In New Zealand

South Island Field Worker

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### I can support this ministry

I will pray weekly / daily      Enclosed is a special gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information about.

The Certificate in Evangelism    [ ]    Other CANZ Ministries    [ ]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Post to: Church Army in NZ, PO Box 26-209, Auckland 1030.

(SI Field Worker)



The Church Army in New Zealand  
South Island Field worker

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Newsletter  
January—March  
2007

## Out and About

I wonder how we get on talking with folk, you know the ordinary conversations that happen between friends and family. Oh yes they can be a bit strained at this time of the year. Funny isn't it how the time for "Peace and good will among all people" has turned into one of the most stressful times of the year.

Anyway that is not what I want to write but rather the better side of conversations. It is also true that Summer lends itself to sitting around the BBQ or at the beach or under the sunshade just talking. This is very good.

Here is some thoughts on this that I stumbled over lately and have included in the "You can do this" seminar.

It's amazing how few of us have pre-Christian friends.

If we are serious about evangelism and sharing our faith let us decide to intentionally build no-strings attached friendships where you live, work and play. But you might say to me: How do I start a conversation with my friends and if I do, what will I say. Perhaps we worry too much about this. We all can talk with our friends, right?

I often wonder: **What if we counted conversations rather than conversions?**

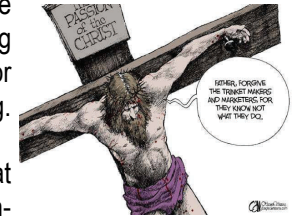
Becky Manley Pippert suggests that the best evangelistic training is teaching people how to talk. A course in conversational skills may bring in more conversions than will a course in evangelism. Now that is a bit different. I happen to agree with her so let's learn to build friends and pray them into the kingdom. Let's relax a little and develop our conversational skills we may never know where it may lead us.

Perhaps this summer we should listen carefully to what we are talking about - you never know what just might happen!

Have a great year

Richard

**A course in conversational skills may bring in more conversions than will a course in evangelism.**  
Becky Manley Pippert



Father, forgive the trinket makers and marketers for they know not what they do.

## Listening Skills

*When you're feeling stressed, have had a particularly difficult day, or are facing a crisis, the ear of a supportive friend can be a lifeline to peace. A genuinely good listener is actually more rare than one would think, and also more valuable. Learn how to be a truly supportive listener, and you may find yourself surrounded by others who are able to do the same. Here are some important steps to being a better listener:*

1. Listen, Listen, Listen. Ask your friend what's wrong, and really listen to the answer. Let them vent their fears, frustrations and other important feelings, maintaining eye contact and showing that you're interested in what they have to say. Resist the urge to give advice, and just let them get it out.

2. Reframe What You Hear. Summarize and repeat back your understanding of what they're saying so they know you're hearing them, and focus on the emotions they might be feeling. For example, if your friend is talking about family problems, you might find yourself saying, "It looks like things are getting pretty hostile. You sound like you're feeling hurt."

3. Ask About Feelings. Ask them to expand on what

they're feeling. Asking about their feelings provides a good emotional release and might be more helpful than just focusing on the facts of their situation.

4. Keep The Focus On Them. Rather than delving into a related story of your own, keep the focus on them until they feel better. You can reference something that happened to you if you bring the focus back to them quickly. They will appreciate the focused attention, and this will help them feel genuinely cared for and understood.

Help Brainstorm. Rather than giving advice in the beginning, which cuts off further exploration of feelings and other communication, wait until they have their feelings out, and then help them brainstorm solutions. If you help them come up with ideas and look at the pros and cons of each, they're likely to come up with a solution they feel good about, or they might feel better after just being able to talk and feeling heard.

**From: Elizabeth Scott, Your Guide to Stress Management**

[http://stress.about.com/About\\_Stress\\_Management.htm](http://stress.about.com/About_Stress_Management.htm)

## Women with Focus Weekend 2007

# No More Spectators!



**27-29 April  
Teapot Valley Christian Camp  
Brightwater**

*A weekend for women of all ages  
who want to grow in their faith and  
influence others to follow Jesus*

**Registration forms will out shortly.**

### Can I be of assistance to you?

Two questions:

**What is God saying to you about your church and the direction he wants you to take?**

**How can we assist you in achieving some aspect of this?**

*I run seminars—see page 4*

*Preach and teach on a range of topics—see web site or talk with me about the specific topics that would help develop and support the teaching of your church and/or group*

**I run parish camps, retreats, vestry retreats, men's breakfasts etc  
assist a church while the vicar/minister is away**

**or during an interregnum**

**Consultancy**

**Pastoral Supervision**

**Conflict and Mediation issues**

***We were  
given two  
ears but  
only one  
mouth.***

***This is  
because  
God knew  
that  
listening  
was twice  
as hard as  
talking.***

### COMMENTS ON MISSIONAL OR EMERGING

*Emerging* or *emergent* are terms being used of the future church. They suggest a connection with the established church and foster the idea of moving forward together. However, *emerging church* covers a broad spectrum – from ‘liquid church’ (Pete Ward) to a variety of more structured forms (Ian Coffey). Some of the main proponents (Kimball, Moynagh, McLaren, etc) wrestle with the label – as does Michael Frost (co-author with Alan Hirsch of *The Shaping of Things to Come*). Mike prefers ‘missional church’ - “a movement seeking to embody the *missio Dei* in our time and place” – quoting David Bosch: “Mission is understood as being derived from the very nature of God.”

Missional church plants foster (1) incarnational (rather than attractional) ministry, (2) messianic (rather than dualistic) spirituality, and (3) apostolic (rather than hierarchical) leadership – with every believer having spiritual gifts that are to be used in service and ministry. They build on the principle ‘we will come to you’ (in our mission to the lost) rather

than you must come to us. (Clearly, not all plants are missional.)

Some denominational leaders are nervous about *emerging/missional* churches – while others are experimenting with the potential and opportunities to share the gospel. Some guiding principles for leaders are: (1) fan every spark of missional interest and activity, (2) earn the ‘right’ to influence and guide the movement of *emerging* initiatives by getting very close to all involved – as friends, and (3) foster and put in place networks of support (with coaching, dialogue and equipping opportunities). There is a reality that some may find difficult to grasp – *missional* churches will happen whether you like it or not.

CHURCH PLANTING NEWS - 4  
April 06



**“A missional church is one whose primary commitment is to the missionary calling of the people of God. . . it is one that aligns itself with God’s missionary purposes in the world. . . The missional church is a sent church with one of its defining values [incarnating Jesus’ life and values in the culture it is embedded]”.**

(Frost and Hirsch, *The Shaping of Things to Come*, p.229)

### Thank you for caring and praying

I am deeply grateful to the response many have made to the financial resourcing of our ministry we still are in a very critical position and urgently need to find ways to give us financial security. If you can help please let us know.

*Above all else please make this a matter of urgent prayer*

The Church Army is seeking to raise funds  
**via a stock raising scheme.**

Details are being worked out but if you would like to know more about this or help out in any way feel free to contact me or Head Office, phone (09)630



### For Your Prayers

*Giving thanks for:*

Those who have given support for the ministry in the South

The 3 seminars, 2 camps, a lecture series at Nelson BCNZ, and a couple of conferences that I have been involved with over the past 3 months and pray for the on going outcomes from these events.

Safety while traveling

Pray for:

the resources needed to keep the ministry going and growing and careful planning for the coming year.

ministry opportunities in the first quarter of the year. (Currently 2 church camps, two Transformation Roundtable a New Wine Trustee's event and a vestry retreat)

Developing CA ministry and presence in Otago/Southland in the coming year.



## Skills for our time....

How about one of these seminars?



### You Can Do This - being a friend to the friends of Jesus

A 7 hour seminar  
In 6 units that will challenge and  
excite you and your church.  
It has helped encourage and  
motivate people to live out  
their faith.

### Home Partnership

A seminar to encourage you in  
your marriage and family life.



### Other events

- *Leader's Retreats*
- *Camps*

### The important questions are:

*What is God saying to you about  
your church and the direction he  
wants you to take?*

*How can we assist you in achieving  
some aspect of this?*

### Building Bridges Finding Hope

- *Radical Communities  
in a Divided Age*
- *Mediation and  
Conflict Resolution*
- *Building a  
Relational Church*



### Topics

- ◆ **Biblical foundations**--finding renewal in conflict.
- ◆ **Individual styles** of response to conflict.
- ◆ **Win-win negotiation skills.**
- ◆ **Skills to mediate** conflict between individuals.
- ◆ Tools to effectively **manage congregational conflict.**

### Time

A 4 hour seminar to help develop an understanding of conflict and conflict resolution and mediation.

NB:

If we are invited to act as mediators this seminar is part of the mediation process.

**Cost:** \$250 (plus travel and printing.)

**The size of the group is not important**

**Contact Richard Dyer for more  
details or to book a seminar.**

## Kaye's Corner

Greetings to you all.

We began 2007 with a wonderful family occasion. We gained a new daughter when our son Mark and Lisa were married in Nelson on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. They are living in Timaru. We also enjoyed having Peter home from his study in USA for 6 weeks. Now we are looking forward to a few days away (and some sun?) before the year gets underway.

Over the years I have heard many people complain, "church is boring". I am sure it wasn't boring around Jesus. I love being around demonstrations of the kingdom. I love seeing answered prayer, I love listening to new believers talking about what God is teaching them, and I love watching people

take what I have taught them and begin putting it into practice as well as teaching their friends to do the same. I never tire of seeing people healed and set free. I have the advantage of being involved in ministry leadership over many years and have



seen many wonderful changes in people's lives as God has acted. Do you feel more a spectator than a disciple? Jesus did not model spectator Christianity. His plan is that all of us will be disciples who will disciple others. You may say, "how do I disciple others when I was never discipled myself?" God will show us. He is calling us to become a

relational people. We are to be a community of people with a different lifestyle. This will be costly as it won't be about us or even about our church but about God's kingdom. It will be about giving rather than receiving. We will be willing to be vulnerable to one another, focused on Jesus. It will require us to move beyond being a community of individuals to a community that shares a life together and invites others in. It will cost us our time, our energy and finance.

Jesus is calling us to step into the dynamic, multiplying life of relational Christianity - Mark Nysewander

**Next issue-** what it means to live with a discipling focus.